

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An alkaline storage battery comprising:
a case; and
a positive electrode, a negative electrode, a separator and an electrolyte that are provided in the case;
wherein an amount of the electrolyte retained in the separator is at least 15 mg/cm² in a period, after assembling the battery, from a time the separator is impregnated with the electrolyte to the time the battery is activated.
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2. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the separator is formed of sulfonated polypropylene, and sulfur atoms and carbon atoms in the separator satisfy a relationship of (the number of the sulfur atoms)/(the number of the carbon atoms) = A, where $2.0 \times 10^{-3} \leq A \leq 5.5 \times 10^{-3}$.
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3. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the electrolyte is poured into the case in a vacuum atmosphere.
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4. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the separator has a specific surface area ranging from 0.6 m²/g to 0.9 m²/g.
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5. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the separator has a median pore diameter of not larger than 30 μm on a volume basis when pores are measured in a range of 0.1 μm to 360 μm with a mercury porosimeter.
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6. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the separator has a weight per unit area ranging from 60 g/m² to 85 g/m².
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7. An alkaline storage battery comprising:
a case; and
a positive electrode, a negative electrode, a separator and an electrolyte that are provided in the case;
wherein a total area X (cm²) of the separator and an amount Y (mg)

of the electrolyte satisfy a relationship of $Y/X \geq 20$ in a period, after assembling the battery, from a time the separator is impregnated with the electrolyte to the time the battery is activated.

5 8. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 7, wherein the separator is formed of sulfonated polypropylene, and sulfur atoms and carbon atoms in the separator satisfy a relationship of (the number of the sulfur atoms)/(the number of the carbon atoms) = A, where $2.0 \times 10^{-3} \leq A \leq 5.5 \times 10^{-3}$.

10 9. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 7, wherein the electrolyte is poured into the case in a vacuum atmosphere.

15 10. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 7, wherein the separator has a specific surface area ranging from $0.6 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ to $0.9 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$.

20 11. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 7, wherein the separator has a median pore diameter of not larger than $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ on a volume basis when pores are measured in a range of $0.1 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ to $360 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ with a mercury porosimeter.

12. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 7, wherein the separator has a weight per unit area ranging from 60 g/m^2 to 85 g/m^2 .

25 13. An alkaline storage battery comprising:
a case; and
a positive electrode, a negative electrode, a separator and an electrolyte that are provided in the case;
wherein a chemical compound containing manganese is deposited
30 on a surface of the separator.

14. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 13, wherein the negative electrode contains a hydrogen absorbing alloy, the hydrogen absorbing alloy containing misch metal and manganese in a composition
35 ratio of $1 : B$, where $0.2 \leq B \leq 0.5$.

15. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 13, wherein the

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electrolyte contains a manganese ion.

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